

SUNDAY 15.09.2024

▶ **2 CHRONICLES 7:11-16 NIV**

▶ **REVIVAL**



REVIVAL

When Christians talk about
‘REVIVAL’ what does that mean
to me?

Revival is the restoration of God's presence to His people. In Exodus 33, God threatened to remove His presence from His people.

Understanding that there is no real life apart from God's presence, Moses pleaded for God to return to His people.

- ▶ Revival awakens the saved from a state of spiritual slumber.
- ▶ Revival is God's wake-up call!
- ▶ Day of Pentecost is a good example (Acts 2)

2 Chronicles 7:14 NIV

- ▶ If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

Introduction

Elements of revival

- ▶ 2 Chronicles 7 captures a significant event in the history of Israel - the dedication of the newly constructed temple by King Solomon through prayer.

- ▶ The Lord responds to Solomon's prayer with these conditions:
- ▶ “If my people will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways ...”

1. Humility

- ▶ Humility means seeing my true condition before God.
- ▶ After all, pride is simply taking credit for things that I'm not responsible for.

▶ "I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. 4Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven."

(Matthew 18:3-4)

▶ The greatest among you will be your servant. For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

(Matthew 23:11-12).

- ▶ Humility leads us to a place of prayer.
- ▶ Pride tells us that someone else will know what I am going through.

2. Prayer

- ▶ Prayer brings us back to that place of communication
- ▶ What sort of prayer is the Lord talking about?
- ▶ It is the sincere prayer of a person who realizes his true condition.

- ▶ That's why every day, We should remember the words of Jesus, "Without me you can do nothing" (John 15:5).
- ▶ Prayer leads us to seek God's face.

3. Seeking God's Face

- ▶ To seek God's face is to hunger for a closer walk with him. Jesus said that "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled" (Matthew 5:6).

- ▶ But God's desire is to revive that hunger of seeking and walking with him again, that why Isaiah said,
- ▶ "... I saw the Lord, high and exalted, seated on a throne; and the train of his robe filled the temple.
(Isaiah 6:1).

- ▶ An exalted view of God brings a clear view of sin and a realistic view of self.
- ▶ A diminished view of God brings a reduced concern for sin.
- ▶ Isaiah's encounter with a Holy God made him aware of his own holiness and sin.

4. Repentance

- ▶ Isaiah later repented, “Woe to me!” I cried. “I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty.” (*Isaiah 6:5*).
- ▶ Revival requires sincere Repentance.

- ▶ The Psalmist wrote, “Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me and lead me in the way everlasting” (Psalm 139:23-24).
- ▶ To repent means we must turn from our own ways to God’s ways.

▶ If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us. (1 John 1:8-10)

Conclusion

- ▶ Humility leads to prayer.
- ▶ Prayer leads to seeking God's face.
- ▶ Seeking God's face leads to turning from our own ways to God's ways.

- ▶ Revival is a renewed friendship with our God.
- ▶ That's why He said, "Then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land" (v. 14).
- ▶ He can hear and forgive us because now His spirit lives in us.